THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, February 6, 1804.

Timidity and Female Courage compared.

[From Hamilton's Letters.]

TIMIDITY, when conſidered merely as an enemy to vigorous exertion, will be found an obſtacle to every ſpecies of excellence; as by fettering the mind it is particularly friendly to prejudice, and inimical to truth. The ſelf-poſſeſſion which ſeems the inheritance of great minds, is, in reality, but the triumph of reaſon over the paſſions of ſurpriſe and fear; which on no emergency can be promptly conquered by minds accuſtomed to the early dominion of terror. It ſurely then is our buſineſs to guard as much as poſſible againſt the early introduction of a paſſion which is in its exceſs equally injurious to happineſs and virtue. Females, indeed, are ſeldom placed in thoſe ſituations where the exertion of active courage is required. Whatever is unneceſſary is abſurd; the affectation of it is diſguſting. But of that paſſive courage which takes the name of fortitude, where is the woman, who, in ſome period of life, is not called on for its exertion? By the delicacy of her frame expoſed to inevitable ſuffering from bodily pain, ought not her mind to be ſtrengthened to ſupport it with firmneſs? Unhappy the friend, doubly unhappy the attendants, who are doomed to liſten to the querulous murmurs of amiable weakneſs under the preſſure of bodily infirmity? Here, I believe, it would be readily excuſed, even by the moſt ſtrenuous advocate for the charms of feminine imbecility. But having once deprived the mind of ſtrength and energy, we muſt take all the conſequences: of theſe the incapacity of ſupporting pain with any degree of firmneſs is, perhaps, not the worſt.

The ſelfiſhneſs almoſt always connected with extreme timidity of temper, is a conſequence we ſhould ſtill more ſtrongly deprecate. Active benevolence requires a degree of reſolution, a dereliction of ſelf, to which the timid can never attain. Let us compare the two by examples from real life. Is it an uncommon thing to ſee a lady who is the ſlave of fooliſh fears with regard to her own perſonal ſafety, ſhew very little concern for the ſafety of others? I have ſeen one who, if a cow but looked at her in her walks, would ſcream with terror, and run from it as ſhe would from a Bengal tyger: yet with great ſang froid permit her child to face the formidable animal, and turn it from the path; it is the nature of cowardice and puſillanimity to direct the mind exclufively to the attention of ſelf. On a mind thus occupied, the ſufferings of others can make no impreſſion; nor can the ſocial or ſympathetic affections in ſuch circumſtances exert their influence over the heart. How miſtaken is it, then, to confound the idea of gentleneſs, of which the feelings of benevolence and complacency are the conſtituents, with that cowardice which is the conſequence of an unmixed regard to ſelf!

Permit me to illuſtrate the union of gentleneſs and fortitude by an apt example with which my memory now furniſhes me. Mrs. B. a lady whoſe gentleneſs aroſe from the pure ſource of Chriſtian meekneſs and unbounded philanthropy, after having ſuffered with unrepining patience the painful progreſs of a cancer, was adviſed to ſubmit to an operation, from which a faint hope of cure was entertained by her medical friends. It happened that one of her ſervants (I believe her kitchen maid) had about the ſame time contracted a white ſwelling in her knee, for which amputation was pronounced the only remedy. During the progreſs of her diſorder, Mrs. B. took infinite pains to ſtrengthen the weaker mind of her fellow-ſufferer, and to bring her to that calm reſignation to the divine will, of which ſhe herſelf was ſo bright an example.

The amiable miſtreſs, who was mother of a large family, ſpent the morning in giving ſuch admonitions to her children, and ſuch inſtructions concerning them, as were ſuggeſted by a ſound underſtanding, a pious mind, and a benevolent heart. But not even the affecting idea of a laſt interview (for ſo ſhe conſidered it) with her beloved children, could ſo far conquer her feelings as to render her forgetful of the poor ſufferer above ſtairs, whoſe feeble mind was in agonies of apprehenſion at the near proſpect of the dreaded event. She ſent to her ſeveral meſſages of conſolation before the arrival of the ſurgeons, and after ſhe had with heroic fortitude endured the cruel torture of an unſucceſsful operation, the firſt and almoſt the only words ſhe uttered, were to deſire an attendant to inform Peggy, that the pain was not nearly ſo great as ſhe expected! Let us compare

pare the magnanimity of this conduct with the selfish concern of a dastardly and timid spirit, and declare to which of the two we would give the preference.

ELIZA LASCELLS: A TALE.

(Continued from Page 88.)

DURING this conversation Edward never attempted to interrupt his father, but, when he came to the close, he merely said he was too good, without expressing any of that delight which it was natural to imagine he must have felt at the prospect of receiving his father's permission to make the lovely Eliza his wife. This indifference proceeded from the natural versatility of his disposition, and possession blunted the edge of delight; for that very woman whom he had loved with a phrenzy of passion, he rather felt a repugnance to making his wife. The large fortune of Miss Lexington glittered before his imagination, and he cast a longing look toward the splendid enjoyments it would procure: still, however, he found it necessary to conceal his sensations from his father, and implored him never to mention this act of villainy any more.

The moment Eliza found herself alone with Mr. Herbert, the trepidation which overspread her seemed to increase; at length, upon his taking her tenderly by the hand, she sighed forth, "I am unworthy of this kindness; but tell me, O tell me, is my beloved mother well?"—"As well, my dear Eliza, as she can be, after the unexpected shock you gave her," replied Mr. Herbert, in an affectionate tone of voice, "but I trust she will be better in the course of a few days; for, though Sir Charles of course must be displeased with his son for an act of absolute disobedience, he means openly to acknowledge you as Edward's wife; and, as private unions sometimes are attended with unpleasant consequences, I am to-morrow morning to perform the ceremony in a neighbouring parish church, that a proper register may be made of the circumstance, and that your children (if you have any) may be the undisputed heirs to the estates. But let me inquire, my dearest girl," continued the friendly Mr. Herbert, still softening his accents, "what could have occasioned those tears which I beheld upon entering the room? No disagreement of opinion could surely have occurred already, for it is but an early stage of the honey moon."—"Oh no, my dear Sir," replied the blushing Eliza, but Mr. Charlton had been wishing me to accompany him to town, though he absolutely promised, before my marriage, that I should return to my dearest mother in less than a month. I fear he finds the place rather dull for him, and he has invited Sir George

Freelove to come down, which I ventured to ſay I did not think quite proper, until he had received an anſwer from his aunt."

The converſation was interrupted by the entrance of the gentlemen, when Eliza attempted to throw herſelf at Sir Charles's feet: from this act of humiliation ſhe was prevented by the baronet, who affectionately embraced her, and led her to a ſeat. "My worthy friend Herbert," ſaid he, "I truſt, Mrs. Charlton, has told you that I am a mighty whimſical ſort of a man; in ſhort it is ſo long ſince I have been at a wedding, that I am determined to have you married again."—"Mr. Herbert has convinced me, Sir Charles, that you are all goodneſs, and I find language inadequate to expreſs what I feel; but my whole life will be ſpent in endeavouring to prove to you, that ingratitude is not one of the failings of my heart."

If Sir Charles had been ſtruck with the manners of Eliza when he firſt beheld her, he found himſelf ſtill more delighted with her before the cloſe of the night, and he was almoſt tempted to wiſh that ſhe had been leſs amiable, as he feared his ſon was incapable of appreciating her worth.

When his intended daughter-in-law retired to reſt, he inquired what plan Edward intended adopting for the ſupport of the woman whom he had ſeduced? when he calmly informed him he intended returning to college, and that Eliza muſt reſide in her mother's houſe.

"I highly approve of your plan of returning to college," replied Sir Charles Charlton, "becauſe it will be neceſſary that you take your degree; but out of the handſome allowance which I have hitherto made you, do you not think it neceſſary to make Mrs. Laſcells a compliment for the board of your wife?"—"That compliment, my dear Sir, I ſhould ſuppoſe you will pay her, as it is in obedience to your orders that I am going to become a married man. I love Miſs Laſcells, it is true, I did love her to diſtraction, but I had never an idea of attending her to church."

Sir Charles was ſo much enraged at theſe diſſipated ſentiments, that it was with the utmoſt difficulty that his anger could be appeaſed; and he declared, in the moſt ſolemn manner, that unleſs he made a good huſband, his wife and her children ſhould poſſeſs the whole of his eſtate. Mr. Herbert had always felt a degree of parental tenderneſs for Eliza, and he began to think it would be even better to publiſh her diſgrace than to ſuffer her union with ſuch a man, particularly after having heard him avow to his father, that the paſſion which he had felt was on the decline. Yet, when he reflected upon the peculiar delicacy of Mrs. Laſcells ſentiments, he felt convinced ſhe would not ſurvive the diſhonour of her child; and though he knew that miſery muſt be the conſequence of the marriage, he thought it would be preferable to public diſgrace. Sir Charles propoſed

that

that the day after the ceremony the whole party ſhould proceed to Mrs. Lafcells's houſe, and as Edward began to grow ſick of retirement, he very readily conſented to the plan. Their preſent reſidence belonged to Sir George Freelove, and the perſon who had the care of it lived only at the diſtance of a mile; therefore it was very eaſy to reinſtate her in the ſtation ſhe had occupied; but it was neceſſary that Peggy and Edward's valet ſhould be immediately ſent to town. Terrified by the baronet's threats, they agreed to his propoſal, and as Sir Charles had property in the Weſt Indies, he determined to ſend them there; and as Thompſon, which was the name of the man, was a very clever fellow, the agent was deſired to make him overſeer.

The day of the marriage was ſpent in making the neceſſary preparations for the removal of the whole family on the following morn; a ſervant of Sir Charles's was ſent to Mrs. Lafcells, to prepare her for the reception of her daughter and ſon.

To that moſt attached of mothers Mr. Herbert had written immediately after his interview with Sir Charles, but had carefully concealed from her the iniquitous plans of Edward, and only gave her ſuch intelligence as was likely to ſooth her mind. He informed her that they had obtained intimation of the rout the runaways had taken, and that they were going to purſue them with the utmoſt ſpeed; that Sir Charles was completely reconciled to the marriage, and that he flattered himſelf all would yet be well.

Having received this pleaſing intelligence, through the medium of the worthy rector, ſhe was in ſome meaſure prepared for the reception of her gueſts; yet, ſo completely was ſhe overpowered by a variety of emotions, that the moment ſhe peruſed Sir Charles's letter ſhe fainted away. That exquiſite ſenſibility which ſhe had endeavoured to repreſs in her daughter, agitated every nerve in her own boſom with ſenſations of delight; and never were the following lines more completely verified, or the juſtice of them felt in a more eminent degree:

" 'Tis bliſs, but to a certain bound;
" Beyond, is agony."

Tedious appeared the hours, ſlow moved the minutes, until the period arrived which was to reſtore her daughter to her arms: at length, ſhe beheld two poſt-chaiſes and four approaching, but ſo violent were her emotions, that ſhe was unable to riſe from her ſeat: in the firſt were Sir Charles and Mr. Herbert; in the ſecond, the repentant Eliza, and the man to whom ſhe had betrothed her faith. Sir Charles waited to hand her out of the carriage, and was actually obliged to ſupport her to her mother's feet. The extended arms of Mrs. Lafcells were open to receive her, and, preſſing her in tranſports to her boſom, ſhe exclaimed,

claimed, " Do I once more embrace my child! Oh, my Eliza, far dearer are you to me than exiſtence! But oh, what anguiſh, what tortures have I endured!"—" Wretch that I am," ſaid the trembling Eliza, wetting her mother's boſom with her tears, " but for Heaven's ſake, my beloved mother, ſay you will forgive me; ſay, you will pardon a ſeverely repented crime!"—" I forgive you from my heart," ſaid the attached mother; " and may my bleſſing enſure both your happineſs and peace. And you, Edward," continued ſhe, extending a hand toward him, " I ſhall henceforth regard with the affection of a ſon; I am compenſated for all my ſufferings by this unexpected meeting, and my gratitude to Sir Charles will ceaſe but with my life."—" The word gratitude between friends, Madam, ſounds rather diſcordantly; and as ſuch I hope henceforth you will permit me to rank: theſe young people have thought proper to cement our intereſts, and we muſt mutually endeavour to make them as happy as we can."

In the courſe of the day Sir Charles took an opportunity of informing Mrs. Laſcells, that a place of great truſt under government had been promiſed to his ſon; but that he wiſhed him to take his degrees at the univerſity, and that it would be neceſſary for him to return to Cambridge in the courſe of a month; but that, from the preſent period, he ſhould ſettle five hundred a-year upon his daughter-in-law. It is impoſſible for the power of language to do juſtice to Mrs. Laſcells' feelings, but her happineſs was certainly at its climax that day; ſhe was then totally ignorant of her ſon-in-law's diſpoſition, and ſhe looked forward to a ſucceſſion of undiminiſhed delights.

(To be continued.)

A SHOWER OF MUD.

THE Journal de Phyſique for Germinal contains a letter from De Fortis to the editor, in which he gives an account of a ſhower of mud which fell in the evening of the 27th of March near Udina. " The wind (ſays the author) had blown with violence from the eaſt for three days. The extent of country which was abundantly beſprinkled by this ſtrange rain was twelve miles in diameter from the borders of the ſea to the bottom of the Alps of Carnia. I do not know whether the partiſans of the opinion which makes lava come to us from the moon, can derive any arguments in their favour from the mud which has covered the plains of Friouli; but, for my part, I firſt imagined that the wind, being charged in Sicily or near Naples with clouds of volcanic duſt, had depoſited them at the bottom of the Carnian mountains, which prevented the clouds from going further. But having then obſerved, through a very

powerful magnifying glaſs, a ſpecimen of the ſediment in queſtion, which a friend ſent me from Udina, I convinced myſelf that it had not the leaſt reſemblance to that *detritus* which is raiſed by volcanoes to the ſuperior regions of the atmoſphere. It appears to me more natural to ſuppoſe that a ſtorm, or perhaps water-ſpouts at ſea, having ſucked up ſome of the muddy water which the rivers by their inundation leave on the plains, raiſed them to the upper regions, where they were carried away by the winds. It is in conſequence of ſimilar circumſtances, very natural and common, that worms, tadpoles, and ſmall fiſhes, have often been ſeen to fall from the clouds, with rain, without any perſon conceiving the idea of making them come from an ærial race or from another globe.

Narrative of the late Rebellion in Ireland.

(Continued from Page 96.)

THE famous Theobald Wolfe Tone, captured in a French veſſel, in an expedition to the coaſt of Ireland ſtill more abortive than that of Humbert, ſurvived not long his brother Matthew. The little army of Humbert had been intended only to be a vanguard to a much more formidable force, which was in a ſhort time to follow. Providentially for the ſafety of the Britiſh empire, the French adminiſtrators were as tardy in ſeconding the operations of Humbert, as they had been in ſeconding thoſe of the ſouthern rebels of Ireland. The want of money is aſſigned as the cauſe of delay in the equipment of the ſecond fleet, and in the interim, before its appearance on the Iriſh coaſt, a brig from France arrived at the little iſle of Rutland, near the north-weſt coaſt of Donnegal, on the 16th of September, and landed its crew; among whom was James Napper Tandy.

Informed of the ſurrender of Humbert's troops, and unable to excite an inſurrection by their manifeſtoes in that quarter, they re-embarked, and abandoned the ſhores of Ireland. Tandy was afterwards arreſted at Hamburgh by ſome Britiſh agents. In this action the dignity of a neutral ſtate was contemptuouſly violated, and the influence of the Emperor of Ruſſia was ſolicited and obtained to intimidate the Hamburghers into an acquieſcence in this violation, which expoſed them at the ſame time to the reſentment of the French government.

Tandy was tried at Lifford, at the ſpring aſſizes for 1801; and pleading guilty, received his majeſty's pardon on condition of emigration; in conſequence of which he emigrated to France. At length, at the end of September, ſailed the principal armament from Breſt, conſiſting of one ſhip of the line and eight frigates,

frigates, having on board, as was reported, four or five thouſand ſoldiers, and deſtined for the coaſt of Donnegal. Deſcried in their approach to that coaſt, on the 11th of October, by a Britiſh ſquadron, under Sir John Borlaſe Warren, and overtaken the next morning, a deſperate battle commenced, which continued from half an hour after ſeven in the forenoon till eleven, when the ſhip of the line, named the Hoche, was captured, and the frigates made ſail to eſcape. In a running fight of about five hours, three of theſe became prizes, and three others afterwards; two only of the ſquadron eſcaping to France.

A ſmaller fleet, deſtined to co-operate with the above, conſiſting of the three frigates which had before come with Humbert, carrying a land-force of two thouſand men, anchored in the bay of Killala on the 27th of October, but on the appearance of ſome Britiſh ſhips of war, made ſail with precipitation for France, without landing the troops, and eſcaped after a long chace. The commanders of theſe forces had orders to ſend the Biſhop of Killala and his family priſoners to France, and, if they ſhould meet with oppoſition in landing, to lay the town in aſhes. The cauſe of this unmerited ſeverity was an unfounded opinion entertained by the French adminiſtrators, that the biſhop had betrayed the town to the king's troops, together with a depoſit of two hundred and eighty barrels of gunpowder, partly buried under a hot-bed in his garden, partly in a vault in the haggard under a corn-ſtand. The powder could not be concealed from the king's officers, even if the biſhop had thought it his duty to attempt it; but its removal was anxiouſly wiſhed, ſince the town, with all its contents, had three times been in danger of annihilation by the approach of fire to this terrible maſs, the ſhock of whoſe exploſion muſt have had the moſt ruinous effect.

On board the Hoche, in the action with Admiral Warren, was found Theobald Wolfe Tone, whoſe activity and talents had contributed to give life to a formidable conſpiracy, which received a deadly wound by the miſcarriage of the French armament, and which can hardly be ſaid to have ſurvived his fate. Tried by a court-martial in the capital, he reſted his defence on his being a denizen of France, an officer in the ſervice of that country, and pretended not to deny the charge againſt him, nor even to excuſe his political conduct. Found guilty, he requeſted the indulgence of being ſhot as a ſoldier, inſtead of being ignominiouſly hanged as a felon; and, on the refuſal of this requeſt, cut his own throat in the priſon. The operation being incompletely performed, hopes were entertained of his recovery; and on the next morning John Philpot Curran, Eſq. the famous barriſter, made a motion in the court of King's Bench for a writ of habeas corpus in his favour, upon the ground that "courts-martial have no juriſdiction over ſubjects

not in military ſervice while the court of King's Bench is ſitting." After a full diſcuſſion of the ſubject the plea was admitted; but, from the condition of Tone, his removal from priſon, according to the writ, was deemed unſafe, and he ſhortly after died from the ſelf-inflicted wound.

With the reduction of the ravaging bands in the mountains of Wicklow, under Holt and Hacket, already mentioned, the laſt profeſſed champions in arms of the united conſpiracy, and with the death of Tone, its chief original projector, ended a rebellion, of which the deep and artful ſcheme demonſtrated the ability, but the immediate conſequences, the ignorance of its authors with reſpect to the inſtruments which they were obliged to employ. Since from experience of this event civil wars in any part of Ireland, except ſome northern counties, muſt, from whatſoever cauſes excited, be juſtly expected to aſſume a religious complexion of the moſt bloody hue. Iriſh proteſtants ought to be convinced that the political ſeparation of their country from Britain, by a popular inſurrection, muſt involve their extinction, and that conſequently an infrangibly determined adherence to their Britiſh connexion is neceſſary for their ſafety. Some extraordinary circumſtances, we muſt allow, reſtrained the inſurgents of Connaught from proceeding to religious murder; but doubtleſs, if they had continued much longer in power, agitators like Dixon of Wexford would have gained an aſcendency, and ſcenes of blood would have ſucceeded thoſe of deva ſtation.

Unhappily for themſelves and their country, ſo inveterately rooted are the prejudices of religious antipathy in the minds of the lower claſſes of Iriſh romaniſts, that in any civil war, however originating from cauſes unconnected with religion, not all the efforts of their gentry, or even prieſts, to the contrary, could, if am not exceedingly miſtaken, reſtrain them from converting it into a religious quarrel. This generation at leaſt muſt paſs away before the religious hatred, and notions of excluſive right to divine favour, deeply imbibed from the clergy of older times, could be removed, or in civil commotions be effectually reſtrained, by the clergy of the preſent time, ſuppoſing their wiſhes and efforts the moſt earneſt and liberal.

Though I think that the influence of the Romiſh clergy in Ireland is at preſent inſufficient either to prevent or excite a rebellion of any moment, yet I rejoice to find that government intends, by the proviſion of a decent maintenance, to render this order of men independent of the laity, ſince this muſt augment in their own eyes, and thoſe of others, the reſpectability of their ſtation, and may incline them to contribute, by the adoption of a more liberal plan of conduct, to the removal of thoſe unchriſtian ſentiments of religious intolerance, and thoſe blind attachments in their followers to foreign powers in pre-

ference to the Britiſh government, to which ſources are in great meaſure to be attributed the poverty and miſery of their country. Of the miſeries occaſioned to Iriſh romaniſts by theſe cauſes, a hideous catalogue might be eaſily collected from the authentic records of this iſland.

Relying on the protection of the Pope and of Spain, great numbers roſe in arms againſt the government of Elizabeth, and long maintained a war againſt that princeſs, till reduced in ſtrength and numbers by unutterable calamities, the conſequences of the war, or, as Sir John Davis has expreſſed it, "brayed, as it were, in a mortar, with ſword, famine, and peſtilence together," the miſerable remnant fell an unreſiſting prey to the conquerors, notwithſtanding Spaniſh and Italian ſuccours. The ghaſtly forms of death, by which many thouſands periſhed, and great part of the country was waſted, would furniſh mournful matter for many pages. "No ſpectacle," ſays Morriſſon, in his hiſtory of Ireland, "was more frequent in the ditches of towns, and eſpecially in waſted countries, than to ſee multitudes of theſe poor people dead, with their mouths all coloured green by eating nettles, docks, and all things they could rend up above ground."

Many to appeaſe the rage of hunger devoured human carcaſes, of which a horrid inſtance was witneſſed by Sir Arthur Chicheſter, Sir Richard Morriſſon, and other officers of the queen's troops, who beheld three children, the eldeſt of whom was not above ten years of age, in the act of eating the fleſh of their deceaſed mother! with circumſtances too ſhocking for a particular ſtatement here."

A like deſolation, with ſcenes of death by plague and outrageous famine, followed in its courſe the rebellion of 1641. "About the year 1652 and 1653," ſays an author, who was an ocular witneſs of the ſtate of things, "the plague and famine had ſo ſwept away whole counties, that a man might travel twenty or thirty miles, and not ſee a living creature. Our ſoldiers would tell ſtories of the places where they ſaw a ſmoke; it was rare to ſee either ſmoke by day, or fire or candle by night; and when we did meet with two or three poor cabins, none but very aged men, and women and children (and theſe with the prophet might have complained, 'we are become as a bottle in the ſmoke, our ſkin is black like an oven, becauſe of the terrible famine') were found in them. I have ſeen thoſe miſerable creatures plucking ſtinking carrion out of a ditch, black and rotten; and have been credibly informed that they digged corpſes out of the grave to eat." He then informs us of an officer, who with a party of men found in the night a ruined cabin, "where they ſaw a great fire of wood, and a company of miſerable old women and children ſitting round about it, and betwixt them and the

the fire a dead corpſe lay broiling, which as the fire roaſted they cut off collops and eat."*

* Colonel Lawerce's Intereſt of Ireland, part ii. page 86, 87.

(To be continued.)

DESCRIPTION *of the* CITY *of* BERNE.

[From Karamſin's Travels.]

Berne, the 28th of Auguſt.

I Arrived here this morning early. It was but with difficulty that I could get a room at the Crown Inn, the town is ſo crowded with ſtrangers. After changing my clothes, I went to Dr. Rengger, to whom I had a letter of recommendation from Lavater. He received me very kindly, and as I particularly wiſhed to ſee the town, he offered to be my guide. Berne is an ancient, but handſome city. The ſtreets are ſtraight, ſpacious, and well paved. In the middle of them are deep channels, down which the water ruſhes with great noiſe and rapidity. They ſerve to carry off all filth of the town, and are of great utility in caſe of fire. The houſes are almoſt all in the ſame ſtyle, of white ſtone, three ſtories high, and are a ſtriking emblem of the equality of the inhabitants. How different are many other large cities of Europe, where the meaneſt cottage humbly bends beneath the ſhade of the immenſe and magnificent palace. But the piazzas before the houſes in Berne pleaſe me more than any thing elſe, they are ſo commodious for pedeſtrians; for under theſe galleries, they may laugh at the roughеſt weather.

At the Orphan-Houſe of this place, to which my conductor led me, I found the moſt admirable cleanlineſs and regularity. Few of them are actually orphans; the greater part of the pupils conſiſting of children, who, for a ſmall ſum, receive inſtruction and board in this inſtitution.

From it we went to the public library. On the way I ſaw, on a pleaſant little green ſquare, a chained bear, to which the paſſengers threw bread and other victuals. Mr. Rengger told me that a live bear is always kept in Berne, becauſe this city has that animal for its arms, and derives its name from the German word bär [bear].

Tradition ſays that the founder of this city, a duke of Zahringen, was juſt going a hunting, when the converſation turned upon what name ſhould be given to the new town. He reſolved to call it after the firſt animal that he might kill; and this happened to be a bear. Hence this appellation. In the library

I obſerved many good books, and ſome pretty paintings; however, nothing attracted my attention ſo much as a baſſo relievo, repreſenting a portion of the Alps, and exactly that part which I hope to ſee in reality within a few days.

The mountains here appear in their true forms, with their vallies, lakes, villages, cottages, and every other particular, even the ſmalleſt footpaths are not omitted; but yet the model of Berne is ſaid to be far inferior to that of General Pfyffer, a citizen of Lucerne. This man has, with admirable perſeverance, traverſed the mountains in every direction, has made drawings of them himſelf, has meaſured, and repreſented them in miniature with the utmoſt accuracy. He was twice ſeized as a ſpy by the inhabitants of the mountains, and was at length obliged to confine his ſurveys to the night by moon-light, that he might not be ſeen. He was accompanied in this fatiguing and dangerous expedition by two goats, whoſe milk ſupplied his only nouriſhment.

I next went to the celebrated terrace, a promenade cloſe to the cathedral church, where the ſhade of venerable cheſnut trees affords a refreſhing coolneſs even on the hotteſt day in ſummer.

From this terrace, which is between ſix and ſeven hundred feet high, and is the work of human induſtry, is ſeen a range of lofty mountains, whoſe ſummits are buried beneath everlaſting ſnow, and when illumined by the ſun appear like beautiful, delicate clouds. Underneath runs the Aar, which precipitates itſelf with great noiſe from a conſiderable height. On the wall, which ſurrounds this promenade, I found a ſtone with the following inſcription:

"In honour of the almighty and miraculous providence of God, and as a memorial for poſterity, this ſtone was erected on this ſpot, from which Mr. Theobald Weinzapfli, when a ſtudent, fell on the 25th of May, 1654; after which accident he lived thirty years as miniſter of Kerzerſee, and died in an advanced age on the 25th of November, 1694."

However extraordinary it may appear, that a man, precipitated from ſuch a height, ſhould remain alive, yet the circumſtance, according to the Berneſe, has never been doubted. It is ſaid that the ſtudent wore a wide gown, which, being ſwelled by the air, ſerved him as a parachute, ſo that he came quite gently to the ground.

To-day, after dinner, I was with the Rev. Mr. Stapfer, a very worthy Swiſs. I ſtaid with him till evening, when we went to take a walk out of town. We obſerved from a ſummer-houſe which ſtands on a conſiderable eminence, that the mountain ſummits flamed with fires of various colours. I now felt the force of Haller's verſe: "And it is God who empurples the tops of the mountains with lightnings."

Stapfer

Stapfer juſt at this moment ſaid ſomething to me, and I took off my eyes for a few minutes from this magnificent ſpectacle. When I looked again, the roſe-coloured and purple flames had diſappeared. The ſun had ſet. Surpriſed at this ſudden change, I was ready to exclaim, Thus vaniſhes the glory of the world! thus fades the roſe of youth! thus expires the torch of life! I grew dejected, and we returned with ſlow ſteps to the town.

I ſaw to-day on the terrace the Count d'Artois, with a large company of French nobility. He does not look amiſs, and wiſhes to appear gay, but, even his very ſmile may be perceived the affliction of his mind. To what changes are mortals ſubject! He has paſſed ſeveral weeks at a country-houſe near this place, and is now going to Italy, whither a great number of emigrants accompany him. "A good journey!" cry the inhabitants of Berne, who are not at all ſatisfied with theſe unbidden gueſts.

At the table d'hote uſually dine more than thirty Engliſh and French, between whom frequently ariſe violent diſputes concerning the late occurrences in France.

Deſcription of a perpetual Sea-Log, invented by Mr. Gould, an American.

AN inſtrument, whereby the velocity of a ſhip going through the water can be aſcertained with preciſion, is a grand deſideratum in nautical affairs. By the aſſiſtance of ſuch an inſtrument, compared with ſolar and lunar obſervations, the exact ſpot of the globe which a ſhip occupies may be reduced to a certainty. The common log is acknowledged to be very defective, and inadequate to the purpoſe. This invention ſeems to bid fair to give birth to a ſcheme which will rectify all its errors (except with reſpect to currents, the effects of which will, however, be conſiderably diminiſhed); ſuch as the badneſs of the minute, or half-minute glaſs; the uncertain length of the log-line, which ſometimes ſtretches conſiderably; the unſkilfulneſs of the experimenter; and the variable ſtate of the wind, heave of the ſea, &c.

The new-invented machine is towed after the ſhip by a line of ſuch convenient length, as, due regard being paid to the velocity of the ſhip and roughneſs of the ſea, it is kept clear of the ſhip's wake, and always under water. It is very portable (weighing about three pounds) and durable; not liable to be diſordered; eaſily underſtood, and regular and accurate in its performance. It is perpetual in its motion, and need only be taken in for inſpection at the commencement of each new courſe. It exhibits, at one view, any diſtance from one-tenth part of a

mile

mile to one thouſand miles, by means of four indices, or hands, which move round graduated circles, and ſhew the diſtance as a clock does time.

The conſtruction of it is as follows:—A braſs cylinder is prepared, three inches in diameter, and ten inches in length. This cylinder is guarded at the fore end, to prevent the entrance of ſea-weed, and other improper ſubſtances, by a net-work of braſs wire, terminating in a common centre, at which is placed the ring through which the rope or tow line is paſſed. The interſtices of the net-work are ſufficiently wide to admit the free entrance of the current of water through the cylinder. In the centre of the cylinder is ſuſpended a wheel, conſtructed of braſs, with three or more vanes, ſo as to revolve about its axis freely, and is acted upon by the water on the ſame principle as wind acts on the ſails of a windmill. The column of water which paſſes through this cylinder is always in exact proportion to the velocity of the ſhip. The angle with which the wheel preſents itſelf to the courſe of the water may be increaſed or diminiſhed at pleaſure; which furniſhes means to regulate the inſtrument to the true diſtance with great eaſe. This wheel, being regulated ſo as to revolve about its axis twice in each rood, communicates motion to ſix ſmall ſtrong braſs wheels, the four laſt of which move indices round gradual circles, and at all times give the ſhip's diſtance by inſpection. The machine is preſerved in a horizontal poſition by a ſmall braſs plate, adjuſted to the hind part by ſcrews for that purpoſe. The firſt wheel next to the forty has ninety-ſix teeth, the ſecond has thirty-ſix, the four others have ſix teeth each. The pinions have all ſix leaves, except the firſt, which has eight.

The expence attending this new invention (from the very high price of workmanſhip, and particularly in the mathematical branch, in the United States) is the reaſon why, although it has been tried on board ſeveral ſhips, and the utility of it generally acknowledged, it has not yet been brought into univerſal uſe. The price of an inſtrument is there fifty dollars, although, from the ſimplicity of the work, there is no doubt but one of ſuperior workmanſhip may be afforded in Britain for about two guineas. The invention is certainly liable to great improvements; and, as this nation ſpares no expence in maritime affairs, it may be worthy the attention of men of ſcience in that branch.

Remarks on the preſent happy Unanimity of this Country.

[From Evans's Sermon on the Faſt-Day.]

I Cloſe this addreſs with congratulating you and the reſt of my countrymen, on a circumſtance which may well give joy to

us all—it is, that a ſpirit of unanimity pervades all ranks and deſcriptions of people, on this important occaſion! Whatever diſſenſions, religious or political, may have prevailed, they are now no more! The rancorous ſpirit of party is laid aſleep—would to God that I could ſay it were for ever extinguiſhed! We forget our lines of diſcrimination, that we may join hand and heart in the ſalvation of our country! A pleaſing proof of the truth of this declaration reſpecting our unanimity, is, that the prayer, drawn up for the uſe of the eſtabliſhed church this day, has a clauſe indicative of their good wiſhes for thoſe who diſſent from that eſtabliſhment. Indeed, happy would it be, were this ſpirit of love and unity cheriſhed on all occaſions: religion and good government would then diffuſe more widely its bleſſings.

"Behold how good and how pleaſant it is for men to dwell together in unity!" Many things (ſays Biſhop Horne) are good which are not pleaſant, and many pleaſant which are not good. But unity among brethren, whether civil or religious, is productive both of profit and pleaſure. Of profit, becauſe therein conſiſt the welfare and ſecurity of every ſociety. Of pleaſure, becauſe mutual love is the ſource of delight, and the happineſs of one becomes in that caſe the happineſs of all. It is unity which gives beauty as well as ſtrength to the ſtate; which renders the church at the ſame time "fair as the moon, and terrible as an army with banners."

The ſpirit of unanimity may be compared to that powerful cement which renders material ſubſtances hard enough to be poliſhed, and thus makes them ſubſervient to the uſeful and ornamental arts of life. Without that coheſive property, even the precious metals themſelves would be of little ſervice to mankind. Thus is it in the moral and political world—without unanimity every thing would remain looſe and unconnected, running into diſorder and confuſion. It is this which imparts form and beauty to every deſign—life and permanency to every plan. It is indeed ſo eſſential a virtue, that it may be pronounced the parent of innumerable benefits to every community. But, bleſſed be God! this unanimity is our's, and that in a degree ſcarcely ever known at any former period in our hiſtory. Is it not then a token for good? May it not be regarded as an indication of the divine favour towards this nation? Would it be too much to add, that it is almoſt a ſure proof that Heaven is on our ſide, and that he will give a favourable iſſue to the conteſt?

In examining the hiſtory of other nations, the want of unanimity preceded their deſtruction—the diſunion of their conſtituent parts was followed by their entire diſſolution. In ancient times, thus fell Greece and Rome; in modern times, Holland and Switzerland! Rejoice, then, O Britain! that there is no

want

want of union amongſt your happy tribes; this ſymptom of decay, this forerunner of diſſolution, this purple ſpot of death, cannot be found on this your country. Cheriſh devoutly that portion of health and vigour which remains, and all things will be well! Methinks I already ſee you, having repelled the enemy from your ſhores, returning back to your wives, to your families, to your habitations, amidſt the acclamations of the multitude, and your brows encircled with the laurels of victory:

This northern iſle, our native land,
Lies ſafe in the Almighty's hand;
Our foes of victory dream in vain,
And own the captivating chain.

WATTS.

Finally, you recollect the well known fable of the dying father calling his children round his bed, recommending them concord and unity, and, above all, cautioning them againſt falling out with each other. Having a bundle of rods, he gave it his ſons, and bade them try their ſtrength in breaking it aſunder—they tried in vain; taking the rods into his own hands, he unlooſed them, and laying hold of them ſeparately, one by one, he with eaſe broke them aſunder before their eyes. Any child in this aſſembly may apply this moral to the preſent ſtate of our beloved country.

OBSERVATIONS *on the* DUTY *on* SALT.

THE conſideration of the vaſt revenue raiſed to government by taxation, from a population comparatively ſmall, ſhould ſeem to point out the channel into which our enquiries ought to be directed, in endeavouring to inveſtigate the cauſes of the high price of every article of food; for it is ſcarely conceivable that in ſuch a long catalogue of taxes, none can be found that do not, in their operation, materially affect the price of ſome ſort of proviſion. On this line of enquiry, the duty on ſalt will be found to be a tax on almoſt every neceſſary article of daily conſumption.

We have, I believe, ſufficient data, by which to aſcertain, with tolerable exactneſs, what portion of this duty falls on bread, the "ſtaff of life," as it is emphatically called, which makes no inconſiderable ſhare of the food of all, and the principal part of that of children and the poor.

The quantity of bread corn annually conſumed in this country is ten million quarters. The ſalt uſed in making this quantity into bread, in the proportion of 7lbs. to each quarter, will amount to 31,250 tons, which at the duty of 20l. per ton, is 625,000l.—tax on bread.

"If ſalt thus enhances the price of bread, where the palate can ſcarcely detect it, much more will it affect thoſe articles on which a larger quantity is uſed, ſuch as cheeſe, butter, bacon, fiſh, &c. for the whole amount of the groſs duty on ſalt, may be conſidered as the produce of a tax on theſe different kinds of food, of which tax the poorer claſs, as they cannot afford to purchaſe freſh meat, pay a very diſproportionate ſhare; but the duty on ſalt operates alſo againſt the production of proviſions, and interdicts the bounty of Heaven, by excluding four-fifths of the people from the benefit of that exhauſtleſs ſupply which the ocean offers; for it is only by the uſe of ſalt that the different kinds of fiſh can be brought from every part of the coaſt to the interior of the country, and the fiſherman be enabled to enter into competition with the grazier and cattle jobber; and it is by the pernicious duty on this article (which to produce all the advantages providence intended from it, ſhould be free as air) that ſo large a number are deprived of this ſupply, and made, like Tantalus, to ſuffer want, ſurrounded by plenty.

It would be to no purpoſe to cite any of the clauſes of the act which impoſes this duty in favour of the fiſherman; for it is a fact, that the conditions and regulations under which only an exemption from this duty can be obtained, are ſuch as, from conſiderations of locality and intereſt, are rarely complied with. To thoſe who are diſpoſed to trace this duty through all its miſchievous tendencies, I am perſuaded it will appear that no meaſure can be deviſed better calculated to relieve the miſeries of the poor than that of repealing it.

The uncertainty of our harveſts, as it is the effect of climate, admits of no remedy from human wiſdom; to the will of Heaven we bow; but the evil here ſtated is the work of man, and the power by which it was inflicted is competent to the removal of it. It is true there are obſtacles in the way of ſuch a meaſure; government will with difficulty be prevailed upon to riſk ſuch a portion of the revenue as that which the duty on ſalt produces, for any doubtful ſubſtitute of untried efficacy: but is not the national income for the national advantage? and if this end can be as effectually anſwered by relinquiſhing any part of it, as it would be by the expenditure of ſo much, why ſhould it not be complied with? The proſperity of a nation is not to be eſtimated by the magnitude of its revenue, and its naval and military eſtabliſhments: theſe may exiſt in the higheſt poſſible degree of ſplendour, while the majority of the people ſubſiſt on the ſcanty charity of public ſubſcriptions.

W. X.

Anſwer, by S. L. Margary, of Newton Abbot, to Recluſe's Rebus, inſerted November 7.

THE beaſt you meant, without a doubt,
A BISON points it clearly out.

Anſwer, by W. Bickham, Jun. of Aſhburton, to Primroſe's Charade, inſerted the 19th of December.

BEHOLD the METEOR at night,
When its ſerene and clear,
And ſeamen mark its rapid flight,
And for the ſtorm prepare.

*** We have received the like anſwer from W. Strong, and H. Humphry, of Exeter; J. Ball, of Taunton; A. Kyne, jun. of Dartmouth; and William Mann, of Aſhburton.

A CHARADE, *by R. Berry, of South Molton.*

MY firſt is what we often do
Great actions when we gain;
And next a female's title view;
My whole you'll then explain:
Theſe parts combin'd, there will appear
What oft adorns the Britiſh fair.

A CHARADE, *by Primroſe, of Taunton.*

IF, when oppreſs'd with grief and care,
My firſt be quite ſerene,
I wait its coming to prepare
For a delightful ſcene.

Then doth my next attract the eye,
Its beauteous form to ſee:
And then my whole around the ſky
Proclaims a Deity.

An ENIGMA, *by W. Strong, of Exeter.*

IN poor-clad poverty's ill-furniſh'd cot,
To know exiſtence is ſometimes my lot,
And like the diamond, buried in the filth,
I lie unknown to knowledge, friends, or wealth,
Till fortune ſmiles, ſhe ſpurs my ready parts,
And lo! I ſhine in ſciences and arts.
Nought can eſcape mine eye, altho' as dark
And deep as the receſſes of the ſhark;
Tho' knotty as the fam'd Egyptian ſphinx,
I dive and ſearch, ſharp as an hungry lynx;
This is not all: with fame I ſoaring ride,
And ſcan the beauties of my native ſkies;
Throw Heaven open to each mortal eye,
And paint the woes of death when ſinners die;
Nature's vaſt horde retreats before my ſight,
And midſt the dark I plant a ray of light;
Fair Britain knows me, for throughout the iſle
My votaries reſpected, peaceful ſmile.

POETRY.

ODE *for the* NEW YEAR, 1804.

By H. J. Pye, *Esq. Poet-Laureat.*

WHEN, at the despot's dread command,
Bridg'd Hellespont his myriads bore
From servile Asia's peopled strand
To Græcia's and to freedom's shore—
While hostile fleets terrific sweep
With threatening oar th' Ionian deep,
Clear Dirce's bending reeds among,
The Theban swan no longer sung:*
No more by Ismenus' wave-worn glade,
Or Nemea's rocks, or Delphi's shade,
Or Pisa's olive-rooted grove,
The temple of Olympian Jove,
The muses twin'd the sacred bough,
To crown th' athletic victor's brow,
Till on the rough Ægean main,
Till on Platea's trophied plain,
Was crush'd the Persian tyrant's boast,
O'erwhelm'd his fleet, o'erthrown his host,
Then the bold Theban seiz'd again the lyre,
And struck the chords with renovated fire:
"On human life's delusive state,
"Tho' woes unseen, uncertain, wait,
"Heal'd in the gen'rous breast is every pain,
"With undiminish'd force if freedom's rights remain."‡

Not so the British muse—Tho' rude
Her voice to Græcia's tuneful choir,
By dread, by danger unsubdu'd,
Dauntless she wakes the lyric wire:
So when the awful thunder roars,
When round the livid lightnings play,
The imperial eagle proudly soars,
And wings aloft her daring way.
And, hark, with animating note
Aloud her strains exulting float,
While pointing to th' inveterate host,
Who threat destruction to this envied coast:
"Go forth, my sons—a nobler rights ye claim
"Than ever fann'd the Grecian patriot's flame,
"So let your breasts a fiercer ardour feel,
"Led by your patriot king, to guard your country's weal."

Her voice is heard—from wood, from vale, from down,
The thatch-roof'd village, and the busy town,
Eager th' indignant country swarms,
And pours a people clad in arms,
Numerous as those whom Xerxes led,
To crush devoted freedom's head;
Firm as the band for freedom's cause who stood,
And stain'd Thermopylæ with Spartan blood;
Hear o'er their heads the exulting goddess sing:
"These are *my* favourite sons, and *mine* their warrior king!"
Thro'

* See Pind. Isth. Ode viii.—‡ Ibid.

Thro' Albion's plains while wide and far
Swells the tumultous din of war,
While from the loom, the forge, the flail,
From labour's plough, from commerce' sail,
All ranks to martial impulse yield,
And grasp the spear, and brave the field,
Do weeds our fields uncultur'd hide?
Does drooping commerce quit the tide?
Do languid art and industry
Their useful cares no longer ply?
Never did agriculture's toil
With richer harvests clothe the soil;
Ne'er were our barks more amply fraught,
Ne'er were with happier skill our ores, our fleeces wrought.

While the proud foe, to swell invasion's host,
His bleeding country's countless millions drains,
And Gallia mourns, thro' her embattled coast,
Unpeopled cities, and unlabour'd plains,
To guard and to avenge this favour'd land,
Tho' gleams the sword in every Briton's hand,
Still o'er our fields waves concord's silken wing,
Still the arts flourish, and the muses sing;
While moral truth, and faith's celestial ray,
Adorn, illume, and bless a George's prosperous sway.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

SONNET *to a* LADLE.

O LADLE! matrimonial drum-stick, hail!
Oft may the loving inmate of my cot,
Goodnatur'd, dip thee in the porridge pot,
When wintry storms, and piercing blasts prevail.
What grief shall then disturb my careless soul,
As to my lips I lift the warming soup;
Free from the pangs which sting each wretched dupe
That dips thy *pigmy-brother* in the *bowl*.
But oft, alas! I curse thy wooden head,
When storms domestic banish my repose,
And Poll, the partner of my bliss and woes,
Pursues my steps with many a threat most dread,
And beats with thee (Oh sad reverse of fate!)
A *nuptial rally* on my hapless pate!

Dock. PALEMON.

From the Ladies who travelled in the Kittersen to their poetical Companion.
—*See the last Volume of the Entertainer, Pages* 479 *and* 480.

SINCE you make goddesses of us,
Like compliment may follow;
Your verses are divine, and thus
You surely are Apollo.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

ADVICE *to* OBSCENE WRITERS *on* GLASS.

WITH rhymes obscene no more the glass pollute,
Nor make the guiltless gem turn prostitute;
On the pure glass fair *virtue*'s precepts write,
So shall the diamond shine with heav'nly light.

PHILO.